



ALMA MATER STUDIORUM
UNIVERSITÀ DI BOLOGNA

AQUACULTURE

Research and development to improve sustainability, competitiveness and resilience of the whole value chain of aquaculture sector.

The University of Bologna can offer multidisciplinary skills and expertise for research, applied studies and technology transfer in the field.



Research at the University of Bologna covers a wide range of issues:

- Optimization of feed and feeding of farmed fish and their effects on growth performance and gut health
- Evaluation of abiotic factors and farming conditions on performance and fish health
- Reproduction and larval rearing of new species for aquaculture, parentage analysis in breeding program, marker-assisted selection
- Diagnosis, epidemiology, prevention and control of transmissible diseases of farmed fish
- Development of sustainable rearing technologies for mollusks
- Fish quality, nutritional profiling of fish products, sensorial evaluation, freshness evaluation, effects of rearing methods and feed on fish quality, metabolic fingerprinting of fish
- Economics of aquaculture: farm management and marketing

HIGHLIGHTS

The University of Bologna contributes to the European progress in aquaculture research taking part to several European funded projects:

Horizon 2020: [NewTechAqua](#) - *New Technologies, Tools and Strategies for a Sustainable, Resilient and Innovative European Aquaculture*; [FutureEUaqua](#) - *Future growth in sustainable, resilient and climate friendly organic and conventional European aquaculture*; [Medaid](#) - *Mediterranean Aquaculture Integrated Development*; [ParaFishControl](#) - *Advanced Tools and Research Strategies for Parasite Control in European farmed fish*; [PerformFISH](#) - *Integrating Innovative Approaches for Competitive and Sustainable Performance across the Mediterranean Aquaculture Value Chain*.

LIFE: [LIFE EEL](#) - *Urgent measures in the Eastern Mediterranean for the long term conservation of endangered European eel*.

ERA-NET: [Novofeed](#) - *Novel feed ingredients from sustainable sources*.

The Department of Veterinary Medical Sciences (DIMEVET) in its Bologna and Cesenatico - on the Adriatic coast - locations has specific aquaculture infrastructures for trials *in vivo* on fish or molluscs under controlled environmental conditions to study performance, welfare and health of farmed animals and for diagnosis of fish diseases, studies on viral, bacterial and parasitic fish infections, including zoonoses, histopathology, molecular analyses on aquatic pathogens and gene expression analysis.